

The Price of “Dignity”

Provisions in the Salazar/Escobar/Carbajal DIGNIDAD Act (HR 4393) that they *aren't* talking about

In exchange for the wall (already in the law) and mandatory E-Verify, the bill:

- **Grants amnesty with a direct path to citizenship for an estimated 2.5 million “DREAMers”** (Sec. 2102-2104).
 - Illegal aliens can have committed multiple misdemeanors, and the bill adds waivers for misdemeanors, inadmissibility for crimes involving moral turpitude, controlled substance violations, controlled substance trafficking, prostitution and commercialized vice, alien smuggling, student visa abuse, **and unlawful voting**.
 - It also freezes deportation for anyone deemed prima facie eligible.
- **Grants amnesty with no *direct* path to citizenship for the estimated 10.5 million illegal aliens here prior to 2021** (Sec. 2301-2305):
 - It includes a 24-month deportation freeze for anyone deemed prima facie eligible for the amnesty (so all illegal aliens who claim to be eligible).
 - Illegal aliens can have committed multiple misdemeanors, and those who have been previously deported are waived into the program. The bill adds waivers for misdemeanors, and inadmissibility for crimes involving moral turpitude and controlled substance trafficking.
 - They receive a 7-year renewable status and may adjust status to a green card (and thus a path to citizenship) using existing pathways.
- **Allows administrations to grant amnesty** to illegal aliens who are the spouses or children of U.S. citizens (Sec. 3111-3113).
- **Limits immigration enforcement actions** in, or near, "protected areas," which include any school, hospital, medical or mental health facility, place of worship or religious study, place where children gather, place providing social services, place providing disaster or emergency relief, place where a funeral, wedding, or other ceremony occurs, place where a parade or demonstration is ongoing, and any courthouse. Enforcement actions in these areas would require prior approval from senior leadership or "exigent circumstances" like a national security threat or hot pursuit (Sec. 1122).
- **Codifies the Flores Settlement Agreement**, which has fueled surges of exploited/trafficked unaccompanied children (Sec. 1511).
- **Creates a new "humanitarian status" for certain aliens who are deemed prima facie eligible for asylum** during pre-screening abroad, capped at the annual refugee level (Sec. 1514).
- **Allows aliens with approved green card petitions** to skip the waiting list for \$20,000 if they have been waiting for 10 years (Sec. 3201).
- **More than doubles employment-based visas** by excluding immediate family members from the cap (Sec. 3301).
- **Opens the foreign student pipeline by:**
 - Allowing all foreign students to have the intent to remain permanently in the United States (Sec. 3304);
 - Codifying OPT, or optional practical training (Sec. 3302); and
 - Allowing STEM PH.D.s or medical degree students to self-petition for uncapped O-visas and green cards (Sec. 3303).